GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:971
ANSWERED ON:25.11.2002
ASSISTANCE TO OIL PALM FARMERS
GADDAM GANGA REDDY

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether poor rainfall has adversely affected oil palm yields; and

(b) if so, the assistance proposed for the oil palm farmers in distress due to drought like conditions?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a)&(b): Oil palm is a perennial crop and is mostly grown under irrigated conditions in India. To protect the small farmers against the vagaries of rainfall, subsidy is provided for purchase of diesel pump sets and sprinkler irrigation systems under the Oil Palm Development Programme. As per the guidelines of the Calamity Relief Fund and the National Calamity Contingency Fundassistance at the rate of Rs.4000/- per hectare, as agriculture input subsidy, is provided to small and marginal farmers where the loss of percennial crop is 50% and above.